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acquisition and distribution of box cars. Regulation by the Interstate Commerce Commission should be continued. The several state commissions should be retired from the regulation of railroads, and there should either be regional commissions established or provision should be made for an advisory council similar to those now found in Germany, Austria-Hungary and France.

Mr. Dunn believes that this plan "would remove the main obstacles to fair and helpful regulation of rates" . . . "would eliminate the wastes now caused by undesirable competition" . . . "would remove the financial control of the railroads from Wall Street," and would decentralize railroad control, solve the problem of railroad credit and render it possible for the railway companies to secure and "raise the capital required for adequate development of railway facilities."

E. R. J.

University of Pennsylvania.

LAPP, JOHN A. *Federal Rules and Regulations*. Pp. xi, 628. Price, \$7.50. Indianapolis: B. F. Bowen and Company, 1918.

The journalist, the teacher of government, the attorney and the business man will find this compilation of great practical value. It is an admirable companion piece to Dr. Lapp's "Important Federal Laws" and is handled with the same good judgment in selection, summarizing and presentation as was its predecessor.

In the present volume, Dr. Lapp gives us that administrative interpretation or enforcement which is the real meat of federal law. We may read an act such as that regulating the food and drug trade, or the immigration act, but we can have no grasp of its real significance until we examine the administrative rules which enforce it. Dr. Lapp's compilation thus presents a picture which may be styled "the reality of national legislation." Here we find regulations issued by such authorities and covering such financial subjects as the Federal Reserve Board, postal savings, bankruptcy, farm loan banks; such agricultural subjects as grain standards, the import and interstate movement of livestock, plant quarantines, including grains, timber, sugar cane, vegetables, fruits, food and drugs, meat inspection, federal aid for roads; such legal and commercial topics as the rules of practice before federal trade commission, federal courts, federal land offices, the U. S. Board of General Appraisers, registration of trade marks, copyrights, prints and labels, rules of immigration and naturalization, together with many other subjects which closely affect our business and social relations. The arrangement is made in convenient groups and with each group is given a reference to the laws under which the regulations were issued.

JAMES T. YOUNG.

University of Pennsylvania.

RUGG, HAROLD O. *Statistical Methods Applied to Education*. Pp. xviii, 410. Price, \$2.00. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin Company, 1917.

The number of text-books on statistical methods which have appeared in recent years, indicates a healthy development in the social sciences—a fruitful recognition of the firm basis on which the progress of these sciences rests. The difficulty in teaching modern methods of statistical analysis has been the

mathematical character of the work of the founders of this science; Pearson, Yule, Elderton and others. Professor Rugg's book is just what it professes to be, a presentation in non-mathematical language of these new tools for measuring type, variation and relationship in mass phenomena, and he has done a very creditable piece of work. The thorough student of statistics will still have need for the writings of Yule and Pearson, but this book will make the new science intelligible and usable by many students who would find these original writings hopelessly technical. The book is written for students in education and its illustrations are drawn from that field, but this fact makes it no less valuable to the student of economics. It is hoped that it may foster a more general study of statistics than exists now in schools of economics.

BRUCE D. MUDGETT.

University of Washington.

TRACHTENBERG, ALEXANDER (Ed. by). *The American Labor Year Book, 1917-18.* Pp. 384. Price, 60 cents. New York: Rand School of Social Science, 1918.

The data compiled for this annual volume, although presented from the socialist viewpoint, will be found useful by other students as a presentation of labor questions from that angle.

J. T. Y.

University of Pennsylvania.

WOLFE, O. HOWARD. *Practical Banking.* Pp. xi, 290. Price, \$2.00. Chicago: La Salle Extension University, 1917.

The volume under consideration gives a clear and concise account of the organization and administration of commercial banks, and contains, besides, chapters on clearing houses, foreign exchange, trust companies and savings banks. It is well suited to satisfy the wants of correspondence students of the subject who are actually or prospectively engaged in any department of the work of a commercial bank. The book differs from the typical work on the subject, chiefly in a satisfying avoidance of the superfluous and remotely relevant and in the omission of all but scant reference to the legal aspects of banking and banking instruments. The author, moreover, does not fail to stress recent developments and practices, whether in connection with the detailed work of a department or with such matters as audits and examinations, advertising and new business. The volume is illumined by almost a hundred forms reproduced in their proper connections. Questions given at the end of each chapter afford the student or reader means of adequately testing his knowledge of the chapter contents.

The book is all but free from inaccuracies and mechanical shortcomings. Perhaps the only error of consequence is a readily recognized mis-statement of reserve requirements applying to country and reserve city banks prior to the establishment of the Federal Reserve System (page 82).

The author has utilized his rich and varied banking and educational experience in producing a volume that is at once clear, compact and well adapted to the needs of those for whom it is specially designed.

CHESTER A. PHILLIPS.

Dartmouth College.